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REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

The amendments and remarks presented herein are believed to be fully responsive to the recent Office Action. Reconsideration is requested.

Claims 45, 62, and 73 were objected to because the claims were deemed to require additional structure to carry out the sending and receiving of polling signals and response signals. Without acquiescing in the basis for the rejection, these claims are amended to recite a base processor and a plurality of response processors as suggested in the Office Action. The base processor is programmed to control the at least one base transceiver to send polling signals. The response processors are programmed to control the response transceivers to send response data. Claim 45 further specifies that the at least one base transceiver is controlled by the base processor and the response transceivers are controlled by the response processors to communicate with a spread-spectrum frequency hopping protocol. Corresponding changes are made to claims 62 and 73.

The amendments are fully supported throughout the application as filed. For example, reference is made to paragraphs 0025 through 0027 including transceivers 26, 28 and microcomputers 78.

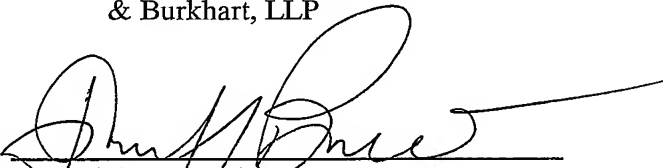
Withdrawal of the claim objection and passage of the application to issuance are earnestly requested.

Respectfully submitted,

HARRY G. DERKS ET AL.

By: Van Dyke, Gardner, Linn
& Burkhart, LLP

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Frederick S. Burkhart
Registration No. 29 288
2851 Charlevoix Drive, S.E., Suite 207
Post Office Box 888695
Grand Rapids, Michigan 49508-8695
(616) 975-5504

FSB:djr
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